FROM A 'PRETTY LITTLE LIAR' TO A TOTAL MESS

ASHLEY BENSON ON BREAKING OUT IN 'SPRING BREAKERS' PAGE 11

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The time machine is the centerpiece of the Philadelphia International Festival of the Arts, which opens Thursday. / EVELYN TAYLOR

Captive from 'dungeon' case heading to courtroom

Abuse. Beatrice Weston claims a background check was never conducted on the alleged kidnapping ringleader. PAGE 04

The Playboy diaries

How many notches are on Hef's bedpost? PAGE 10

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1 NEWS

City Council members question assessments

Budget. City Council members are questioning how the city's 579,000 properties are being reassessed.

Philadelphia City Council members said they've had their butts whipped.

Attending community meetings across the city, council members received hundreds of questions from concerned citizens — questions centered on formulas.

How is the city reassessing their homes' values under the Actual Value Initiative?

Under Mayor Michael Nutter's AVI plan, properties will be assessed and taxed based on their true market value, rather than a predefined percentage.

At the second budget hearing yesterday, council members relayed those concerns as well as theirs at representatives of the Office of Property Assessment. The OPA is working to reassess all of the city's 579,000 properties.

Councilman Curtis Jones Jr. said that, with so many variables, he doesn't think the assessments can be accurate.

"This is a wild-ass guess," he said.

In his opening statement, OPA chief assessor Richie McKeithen said his office developed property valuation models based on statistical analysis.

About 100 evaluators have been deployed to evaluate the physical characteristics of homes in certain neighborhoods.

Council President Darrell Clarke and Councilmen William Greenlee and James Kenney expressed concerns that evaluators didn't visit homes individually.

Councilwoman Cindy Bass said if AVI is supported by the city and the goal is to help and not hinder the citizens, "then we need to do a better job trying to figure out how to reach them. I just think we're not nearly where we need to be."

TOMMY ROWAN
tommy.rowan@metro.us

Prison artifacts at Eastern State give glimpse into jailhouse blues

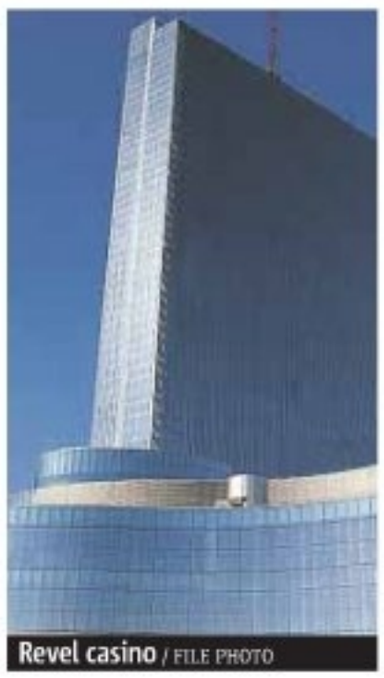
Steven Odonovan, 8, visiting Philadelphia from Maryland, looks at a temporary pop-up exhibit at Eastern State Penitentiary featuring 110 artifacts recovered after the prison closed in 1971, including shanks (homemade knives), keys, photographs, log books and handicrafts made by the inmates. More than 1,000 people visited the exhibit, the first time the artifacts have ever been displayed to the public. "People are fascinated by the weapons. You realize that a human being made it, to attack someone or to protect themselves," said Sean Kelley, senior VP and director of public programming at Eastern State. / CHARLES MOSTOLLER

No dice. Revel casino takes chances in US Bankruptcy Court

Atlantic City's Revel casino on Monday filed for Chapter 11 protection in U.S. Bankruptcy Court.

The embattled casino, which took about five years and $2.4 billion to construct, will reduce its debt under the plan from an estimated $1.52 billion to about $272 million in a debt-for-equity conversion.

The casino will continue normal business operations during the restructuring, which is not expected to impact guests or employees. METRO



Revel casino / FILE PHOTO

Potty talk. Lehigh Valley IronPigs to add pee games to urinals

"Wireless controller" has taken on a whole new meaning.

The Lehigh Valley IronPigs will debut a new urinal-based video game at its ballpark this season completely controlled by men's urine.

The hands-free gaming system located above the urinal is based on accurate aim.

Scores will be made available across the park's concourse.

Four urinals with the game will debut next week. The first game will be alpine skiing. METRO

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The New Jersey man who won the $338 million Powerball lottery has decided to take the payment in one lump sum. Forty-five-year-old Pedro Quezada will receive about $221 million, or about $152 million after taxes, in one payment.
Local tweet
"DID YOU KNOW: Florida Gulf Coast Eagles had as many wins this weekend in Philly (2) as Philadelphia Eagles had during ENTIRE 2012 season."
@SportsCenter, on the woes of our Birds

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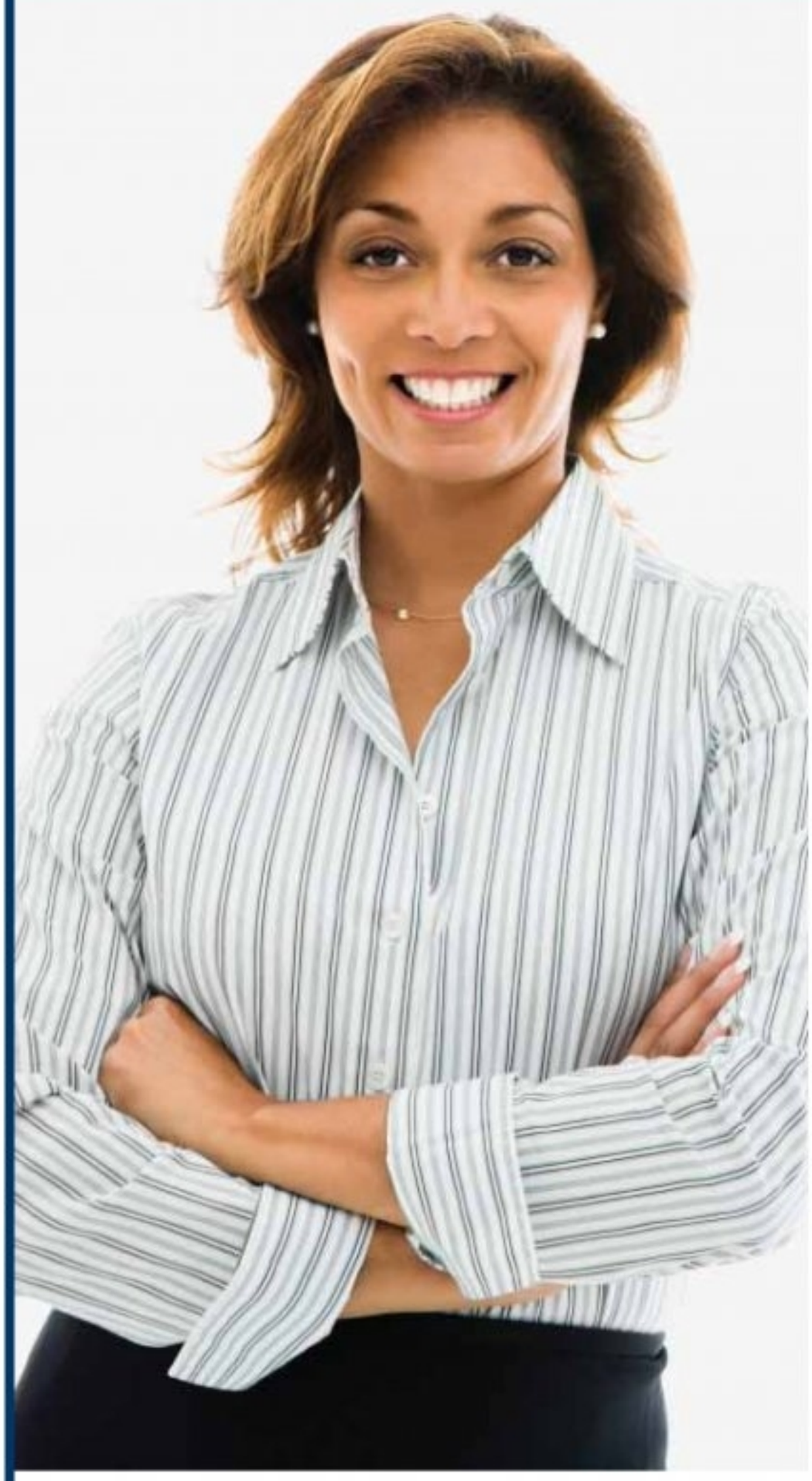

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Commissioner Ramsey stands by the entrance to the sub-basement where the victims were kept. / FILE PHOTO

'Tacony dungeon' victim files suit

Abuse. An abuse victim claims workers awarded her custody to a convicted murderer.

"Tacony dungeon" victim Beatrice Weston filed a lawsuit late last week against the agency and advocates who placed her in the care of alleged kidnapping ringleader Linda Ann Weston.

Linda Ann is accused in a federal indictment of holding captive mentally disabled adults and cashing their Social Security checks.

In the suit, Beatrice claims Intercultural Family Services never conducted a background check on Linda Ann, who should have been disqualified under state law from taking custody of a child due to a 1983 murder conviction.

Linda Ann allegedly imprisoned Beatrice for 10 years, subjecting her to regular beatings and forcibly prostituting her.

The suit claims IFS failed to train its workers to investigate placements, conduct home visits and follow up on confidential tips, amounting to a "state-created danger."

Beatrice is seeking more than $50,000 in damages for lost wages, mental trauma and debilitating injuries for the decade-long debasement, which Police Commissioner Charles Ramsey called "the worst abuse I have ever seen in my entire career in law enforcement."

The suit

Beatrice is seeking more than $50,000 for:

- Long periods of imprisonment
- Forcible prostitution with men
- Regular beatings
- Denial of medical care and proper schooling

ALEX WIGGLESWORTH
awigglesworth@metro.us

Top 10. Philly pulls rank as US's fourth-best city to get a good slice

Philly was voted in the Top 5 in a best food category — and it wasn't for cheesesteaks.

We apparently make one hell of a pizza as well.

Travel + Leisure magazine readers voted Philly America's fourth-best city for pizza. Philly also ranked in the Top 5 for museums and cultural attraction in separate "best-of" categories.

The magazine listed Pizza Brain and Nomad Pizza as two delicious landmarks.

Other than Chicago, which ranked first, the Top 5 consisted of cities along the Northeast corridor. METRO

Our pizza rules. / RIKARD LARMA

SEPTA: Mom, grandmother forget infant

Oops. A baby, just 6 months old, was left at a SEPTA station after some confusion at the turnstile.

Mom passed through the turnstile and boarded the El, Grandma headed for the stairs, and 6-month-old Saniah was in her stroller outside the ticket booth at 60th Street.

"They forgot one minor issue," deadpanned Thomas Nestel, SEPTA transit police chief.

The teenaged mom and her mother both thought the other was taking the baby, Nestel said.

The result? The baby, the stroller and both of the women's purses were left at the turnstile Monday morning on the Market-Frankford Line.

"Mom and Grandmom had a one-day pass," Nestel said. "And the plan was that Mom would go through, and then give Grandmom the day pass and she would go to another station and use the day pass to get on."

When Mom and Grandmom met up, they freaked out. Neither was criminally charged.

"The grand plan didn't go quite as well as expected," Nestel said.

TOMMY ROWAN
tommy.rowan@metro.us

Philly work of art gets a makeover

Michael LoFurno, owner of landscaping company Composite, rakes gravel in front of a Keith Haring mural in South Philadelphia. The mural will be rededicated on May 4, Haring's birthday. Mural Arts and the Neighborhood Gardens Association are fixing up the park and mural ahead of the rededication. / CHARLES MOSTOLLER

Repeat offender

Man drove drunk 13 times

Lawrence Konyves, 47, was sentenced to five to 10 years in prison after being convicted of drunken driving for a 13th time. Konyves was in court after being found guilty of three DUI charges. **METRO**

Shooting

Victim of fatal shooting not yet ID'ed

An unidentified man was shot dead in Kensington yesterday. Police are still trying to identify the man, who was found shot several times in his back. **METRO**

Missing

Police search for car thief

Police in Delaware County are searching for a car-theft suspect they say jumped 50 feet down onto railroad tracks in Chester yesterday. The suspect allegedly limped toward Crozer Park. **METRO**

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Abortion law. North Dakota governor signs restrictive ban

North Dakota yesterday adopted the most restrictive abortion law in the United States, as the governor signed a bill that bans the procedure in most cases once a fetal heartbeat can be detected, as early as six weeks.

Supporters of abortion rights said they would challenge it in court.

Gov. Jack Dalrymple yesterday also signed a bill that bans abortions based solely on genetic abnormalities, the first state ban of its kind, or based on the gender of the fetus.

Arkansas lawmakers earlier in March approved a ban on most abortions after 12 weeks of pregnancy, which could take effect in August if it survives expected legal challenges. **REUTERS**

Stand ready

US slams North Korea threats

The Pentagon yesterday condemned North Korea's threats to target U.S. military bases, saying the U.S. was ready to respond **REUTERS**

iPhone

T-Mobile USA to sell iPhone April 12

T-Mobile USA will start selling Apple Inc.'s iPhone on April 12, making it the last of the big national U.S. operators to sell the phone. **REUTERS**

Supreme Court wary of broad DOMA ruling

Outside the court, hundreds of demonstrators from both sides gathered. / GETTY IMAGES

Politics. The court could be reluctant to rule on the right for gay marriage.

Yesterday marked the first of two days of arguments before the Supreme Court, which will consider the 1996 national Defense of Marriage Act that denies federal benefits to married same-sex couples. Rulings in both cases are expected by the end of June.

The narrower DOMA case does not give the court the same opportunity to issue a broad ruling because the case relates only to a federal law that limits the definition of marriage to opposite-sex couples for the purposes of federal benefits.

Only the California Proposition 8 case gave the court the option to find a constitutional right for same-sex couples to marry. Polls show growing support among Americans for gay marriage.

But during the argument, Justice Anthony Kennedy, who is considered a swing vote, raised concerns about the court entering "uncharted waters" on an issue that divides the states.

Kennedy raised the prospect of the court dismissing the case, an unusual move that would leave intact a federal appeals court ruling that had earlier struck down Proposition 8. **REUTERS**

Quoted

"No hate — we just disagree!"

Yelled one marcher
with a sign that proclaimed children do best with a mother and father

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Knox expresses 'pain' over news of murder retrial

Murder case. The Court of Cassation overturned Knox's 2011 acquittal and ordered a new trial, to be held in Florence in 2014.

American Amanda Knox expressed pain yesterday over the decision by Italy's highest court to order a retrial for her and her former boyfriend, Raffaele Sollecito, for the 2007 murder of British student Meredith Kercher.

She said the new trial must include an objective investigation and a capable prosecution, but did not say whether she would return to Italy for the hearings.

An initial verdict for the murder, which happened when Knox, Sollecito and Kercher were students at Perugia University in Umbria, was overturned by an appeal court after Knox and Sollecito had served four years in prison. Knox returned to her Seattle-area home and Sollecito is believed to still be in Italy.

The acquittal came after independent forensic experts said the police's scientific evidence was deeply flawed and the investigation had been bungled.

Knox said in her statement: "The prosecution responsible for the many discrepancies in their work must be made to answer for them, for Raffaele's sake, my sake and most especially for the sake of Meredith's family. Our hearts go out to them."

She added: "No matter what happens, my family and I will face this continuing legal battle as we always have, confident in the truth and with our heads held high in the face of wrongful accusations and unreasonable adversity." **REUTERS**

Quoted

"It was painful to receive the news."

Knox, in a statement
She added that the prosecution's case "has been repeatedly revealed to be completely unfounded and unfair."

Amanda Knox was "shocked" by Italy's Supreme Court ruling yesterday. / GETTY IMAGES

Case facts

'Foxy Knoxy' for dummies

In 2009 an Italian court convicted the American former exchange student of murdering her roommate Meredith Kercher in 2007. She was sentenced to 26 years in jail; her ex-boyfriend Raffaele Sollecito got a 25-year sentence. However, the pair was acquitted by an appeals court two years later. Now Italy's highest court will re-try the case.

Knox and Sollecito's acquittal has always seemed rather shaky. They were acquitted because of police errors relating to the handling of the evidence at the crime scene. But Rudy Guede, who is serving a prison sentence for Kercher's murder, didn't act alone, and Knox and Sollecito remain the only other suspects. **ELISABETH BRAW, METRO WORLD NEWS**

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CULTURE

Twitter feed

Checking in with some of Hollywood's biggest names to see what they've been up to — in their own words, in 140 characters or fewer.

Today, Victoria Beckham celebrates in a fancy fashion, Kelly Osbourne is feeling a bit roughed up, Jim Carrey finds his fans exhausting and Patton Oswalt isn't seeing Gerard Butler's new movie.

@victoriabeckham: Getting ready for Easter, making Faberge eggs!!

@MissKellyO: Dear #poland paps I love being here & am extremely honored that you even care about me but please don't push/hit me or my fans! Its not ok!

@JimCarrey: Wow!I haven't been on here since 10:15am.14 hrs n u guys r still arguing without me. I'm gonna go 2 bed now but don't let that stop you! YAWN

@pattonoswalt: I'm sure you're a perfectly entertaining film, OLYMPUS HAS FALLEN, but your title sounds like a rejected Fall Out Boy song.

THE WORD

Dorothy Robinson's take on the world of gossip.

DOROTHY ROBINSON
@dorothyatmetro
dorothy.robinson@metro.us

1 Will Smith: Not getting jiggy with 'Django'

Will Smith turned down Jamie Foxx's role in Quentin Tarantino's western revenge-fantasy "Django Unchained" because the character wasn't big enough for his ego. "Django wasn't the lead, so it was like, I need to be the lead. The other character was the lead!" the star told Entertainment Weekly (I'm guessing he assumed the lead was Christoph Waltz, even though Waltz went on to win an Oscar for Supporting Actor for "Django" — key word "supporting." "I thought it was brilliant," he says of the film. "Just not for me." Good thing he turned it down as he probably couldn't have handled all the critical acclaim if he was in that last year as well as "Men in Black 3."

2 Lohan's 'strange' priorities

Lindsay Lohan's latest sentence calls for her to enter a 90-day rehab program by mid-May, but why the delay? If Radar Online is to be believed, it's because the troubled actress didn't want to miss a good concert. "Lindsay was adamant that she not be forced to go to rehab until after the Coachella," a source says. "It's that important to her, for some strange reason." That strange reason? Drugs.

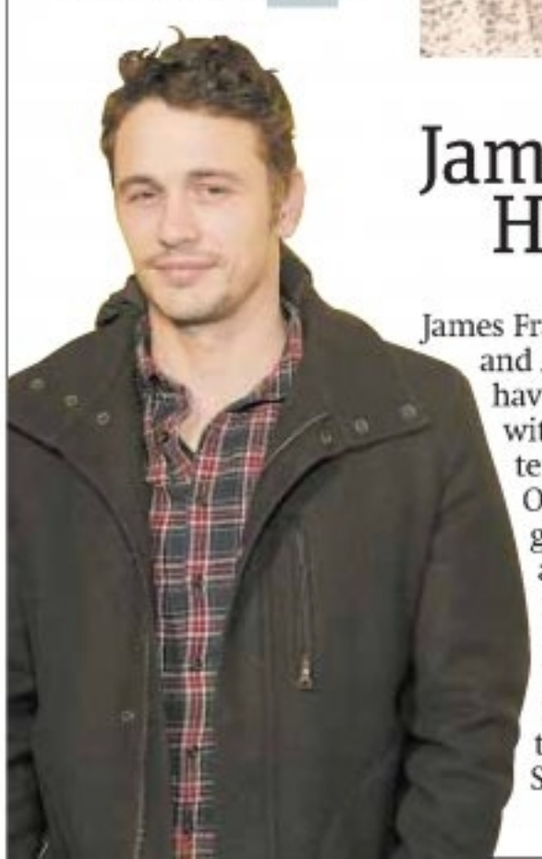
3 Chris Brown makes amends to Ryan Seacrest

Chris Brown was PR coached within an inch of his life before appearing on "On Air With Ryan Seacrest" yesterday. How do we know? The singer said everything that everyone wants him to say about his brutal assault of girlfriend Rihanna four years ago. "I just tried my best to be the best man I could be over the years and just show her how remorseful and sorry I was for the incident and that time was probably the worst part of my life and being that she has and she's a wonderful person I'm eternally grateful and thankful," he said about trying to make amends with her and the world. And as for the backlash that the two are back together? "People are entitled to their opinions. I can't go around blaming. It's all about my responsibility and me growing up as a man," he said. "So I think now that I'm becoming older, and trying to mature in this life under the public eye at all times, I have to focus on doing the right thing and being more of a humble individual." Now, if he would only act like he believes this.

4 Hef: Not keeping count

How many women exactly has 86-year-old Playboy founder Hugh Hefner bedded over the years? "How could I possibly know? Over a thousand, I'm sure," Hefner tells Esquire magazine. "There were chunks of my life when I was married, and when I was married I never cheated. But I made up for it when I wasn't married. You have to keep your hand in." "Keep your hand in" pertaining to sexual conquests by an 86-year-old is the dirtiest thing I've ever heard.

5 James Franco and Anne Hathaway move on



James Franco insists he and Anne Hathaway have made peace with each other after their disastrous Oscars hosting gig two years ago. "Anne and I made up, by the way. Let's just get that on the record," Franco told Howard Stern. "It was a really hard time after the Oscars. She wasn't mad at me, I don't think. The critics were so nasty." The star also addressed a rumor that he'd turned down an offer to sleep with Lindsay Lohan. "I don't want to, like, brag about it. I don't know how that got out," Franco said. "She was having issues even then, so you feel weird."

Ashley Benson: A coed gone very bad

Films. The starlet is making the jump from being a "Pretty Little Liar" to one of the "Spring Breakers."

"Pretty Little Liars" star Ashley Benson makes the jump to film in the most attention-grabbing way she can: alongside Selena Gomez and Vanessa Hudgens as coeds gone bad in Harmony Korine's "Spring Breakers."

The film finds the girls' characters knocking over a diner to fund a wild week in Florida, ending up in jail and bedding down with a crazed, gun-toting, drug-slinging amateur rapper named Alien (James Franco), all in a kaleidoscope of American culture taken to the brink. Not surprisingly, it's courted some very strong reactions. And you Benson likes that you may hate this movie.

"I like when people hate the movie because it's like, 'Wow, we really affected you and you're really disturbed, and that's great," she says. "Because it is a disturbing movie, but it's also a beautiful movie."

Benson came aboard for the film about two weeks before shooting. She says she was attracted to the gritty, raw script.

"My character was so different," she says. "She was just, like, so ballsy, and I've never played anything like that. And I told my agent when I was looking for a movie I wanted to play a tough girl who deals with drugs, who deals with violence — and then this script came out of nowhere and I was just like, 'Oh my God! I have to get this role!'"

Benson says that although she's interested in more roles on the big screen, she's also quite attached to her current gig on "Pretty Little Liars."

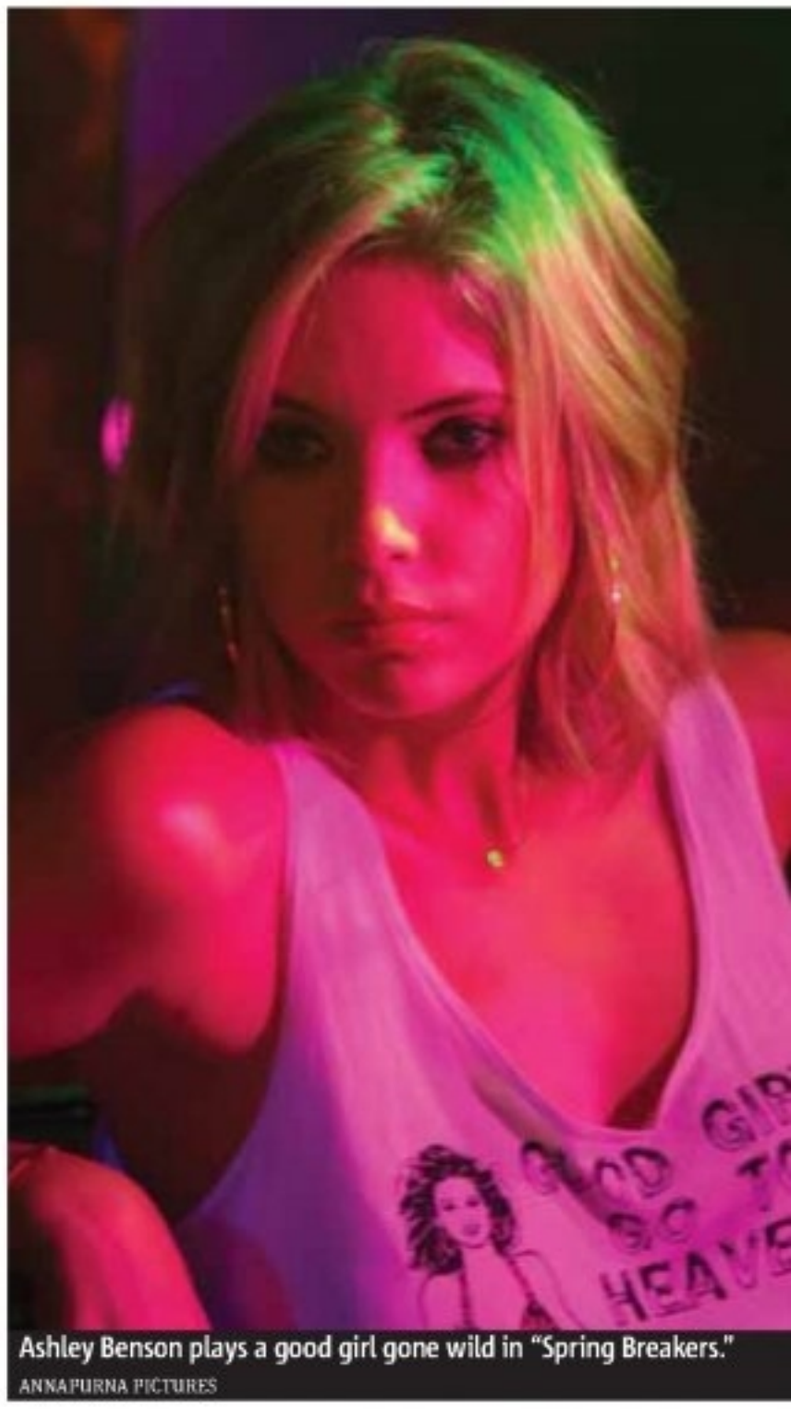
"I'm on my show right now," she says. "I'm going to try to balance out doing movies at the same time, so right now I'm just reading scripts"

The script

'Just pretend it's a video game'

One of the most telling lines in the film is "Just pretend it's a video game." But it wasn't in the script. "The script was more descriptive and very visual, with little dialogue," says Benson. "These girls watch cartoons and play video games and get high and drunk. So for them to be able to do this, they just pretend like they are in a video game."

NED EHRBAR
ned.ehrbar@metro.lu



Ashley Benson plays a good girl gone wild in "Spring Breakers."
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Roxy Theater will reopen its doors

Movies. Philadelphia Film Festival is taking over the theater for year-round programming.

When the Roxy Theater reopens later this year, it will look to be the rare sequel that surpasses its predecessor.

Before it went dark last October, the last movie theater in Rittenhouse Square had limped along for years playing mainstream fare to diminishing audiences in threadbare conditions. But just a week later, Philadelphia Film Society announced a 16-year lease for the Roxy as its new home base.

"The Roxy is ingrained in all of our memories of living in Philadelphia," says PFS artistic director Michael Lerman. "It's the perfect marriage of a beautiful historical place and a home for us."

It's been a long time since the Roxy could be called "beautiful." Opened in 1975 as a single-screen theater, it's had numerous owners through the years, including TLA co-founders Ray Murray and Claire Brown Kohler and "A Clockwork Orange" executive producer Max Raab. It will now serve as a year-round venue to extend the PFS' mission beyond its annual film festival.

"Anything that would play the festival can play the Roxy," Lerman says. "That could be independent films, foreign films and some Hollywood stuff. We're looking forward to the idea that we can wake up with a great idea and just do it."

First, the theater will need to be renovated. The project recently met its funding goals through a Kickstarter campaign which continues through this Friday. New seating and screens will be installed, along with a new digital projection system. Lerman expects the theater to open this spring, with further upgrades over the next few years.

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Philadelphia Film Festival
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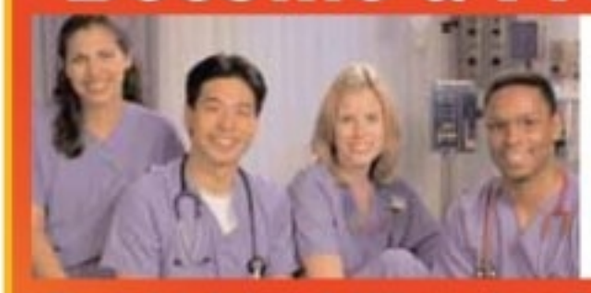

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The Roxy Theater at 2023 Sansom St. / PFS

Screening

Head "upstream"

Tonight, the PFS will host a fundraising event featuring a screening of "Primer" director Shane Carruth's uncategorizable new film "Upstream Color," which met with divisive responses at this year's Sundance Film Festival. Carruth will be in attendance for a Q&A following the screening, which will be preceded by a cocktail hour at Positano Coast. "'Upstream Color' is a really innovative piece of filmmaking," Lerman says. "It's kind of the extreme of the renegade independent spirit that we're going to reinfuse the Roxy with. A lot of our members come out to see something different, and this is definitely something different."

Amy Seimetz and Shane Carruth star in "Upstream Color." / ERBP

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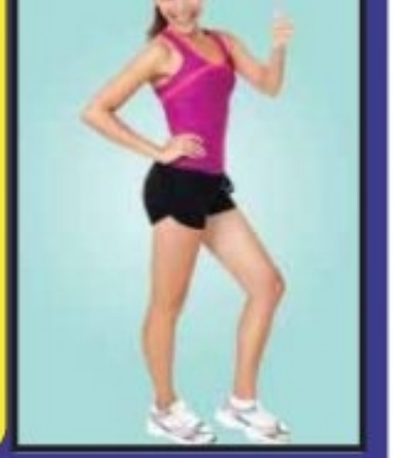

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Travel back in time with PIFA's line up of shows

Arts. The monthlong festival features some unusual collaborations. See what's on tap for opening weekend.

The third Philadelphia International Festival of the Arts kicks off tomorrow, with a theme that participants are actually sticking to this year.

"PIFA 2012 was not as curated — some things were a bit of a far stretch," says Anne Ewers, president of the Kimmel Center, which produces the monthlong festival. But for this year's theme, "If You Had a Time Machine," the creative minds behind all 50-plus festival events found a way to mesh time travel into their theater, music and dance performances, Ewers says. And they came up with some unexpected collaborations along the way.

"You have the combination of Azuka Theatre and the American Poetry Review doing a performance about Billie Holiday. Pasion y Arte and Fresh Blood doing flamenco and postmodern dance with video, about the world's first female gynecologist," she says. "It's incredibly creative."

Top picks for opening weekend:

Tap-dance king

Savion Glover will be showing off his mind-blowing tap-dance moves — in the dark. He's performing "Dance Space," an improvisational piece complete with a fiber-optic curtain and funky things happening with lighting, designed to make the audience feel like they're gazing at a starry night sky. The show opens with a gospel performance of spirituals from the Underground Railroad featuring — wait for it — Justin Guarini, of "American Idol" fame.

March 30
Academy of Music

Christian king

The Philadelphia Orchestra is performing Bach's "St. Matthew Passion." Several festival events are very intimate, Ewers says. This is not one of them. "You take the passionate lover of classical music and the magnitude of the Philadelphia Orchestra," she says, "and the defining moment in time is the crucifixion of Christ." The elaborate symphony, which premiered on Good Friday in 1727, features two choirs.

March 28-30
Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center

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Tap dancer Savion Glover is debuting "Dance Space" this weekend. / KIMMEL CENTER

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Yannick Nezet-Seguin will lead "The St. Matthew Passion." TOM MIHALEK

Back to the future

Light show

Check out the 100-foot-long time machine at the Kimmel. It won't actually take you back to the future, but it can detect whether giant time machines make you nervous. "It has a light and sound show," Ewers says. "As you walk through, there are hand grips that pick up your heartbeat."

The Kimmel Center installed a time machine in its Commonwealth Plaza. / EVELYN TAYLOR

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How you doin', Wendy?

Television. The talk show host sits down with us.

Wendy Williams opens the door to her dressing room wearing fuzzy green frog slippers. She takes a seat on her couch, which is adorned with a plush pink throw pillow. Despite the girliness of the room, Williams — hanging loose post-show in a wavy blonde wig — has a serious business side to her. It's to be expected from the mogul, whose syndicated daytime talk show has been renewed through 2014 on FOX and is airing new episodes in June and July (most daytime talk shows go on a summer hiatus).

All of this television success was never the original plan for Williams, who built her career in radio and as a young woman thought she'd be a newscaster. But the life of a newscaster, Williams soon discovered, wasn't what she really had mind.

"You've got to live a newscaster's lifestyle," she says. "You've got to be married to the right guy, have the right hairstyle, your nails have got to be a particular length, you cannot be seen having fun. That's not fair, but it's the way newscasting is, so I said I'm gonna go with this radio thing. Once I got on the radio I was sideswiped by it and I never looked back."

Williams attributes the success of her show to her producing staff and also her TMI personality. "One of the fatal flaws of my personality that my parents would attest to is, 'You've given too much information. Everybody didn't need to know that Aunt Florence is wearing a wig and she's in the bathroom readjusting,'" she says. "I think people feel comfortable with people that they get to know long enough."

Williams says one her missions as a talk show host is to make her guests comfortable.

"When people walk through the double doors and you see my whole colorful crowd … it can take you back, even as a trained actor. And then you're being hugged by a 6-foot-5 black woman with a lot of hair and a lot of boob — it's a lot! So my producers [do pre-interviews and] give me all I need to know, and then I go out there and make people feel as warm as I possibly can, because the goal of me as a host is to keep you coming back for more."

"The Wendy Williams Show" airs weekdays at 10 a.m. on FOX 29. / KARL GIANT FOR "THE WENDY WILLIAMS SHOW"

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How to remember anything

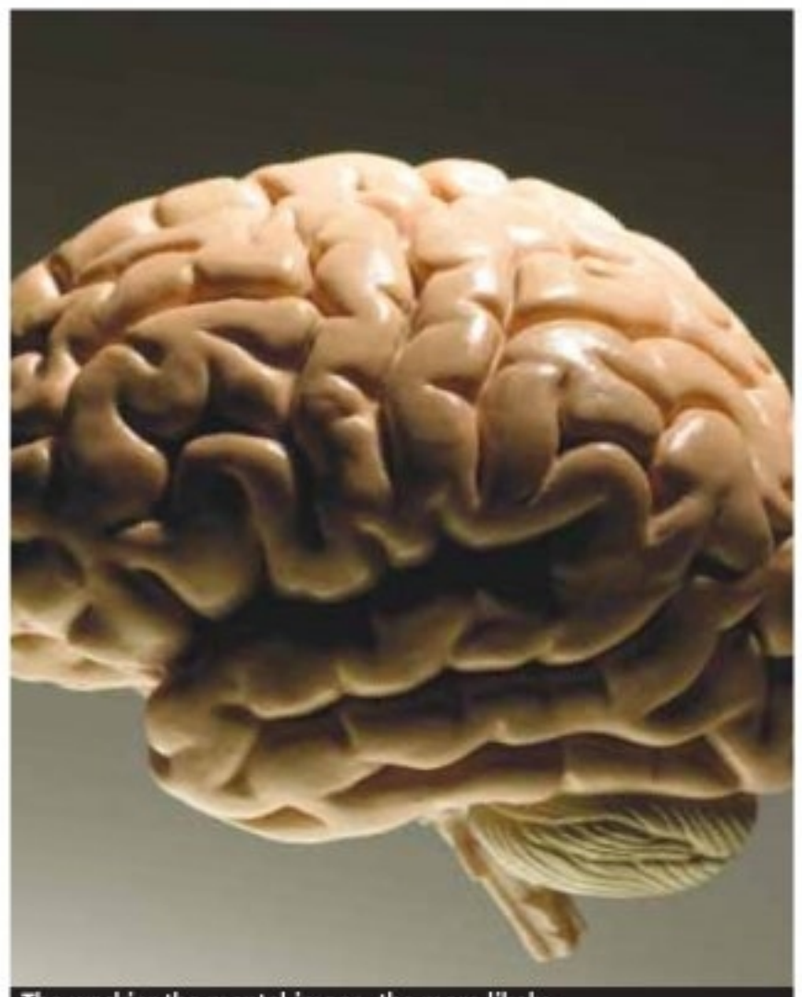
Smarts. Try these tips from a memory champ to stay sharp.

You can't remember how many times you've lost your keys — that's how bad your memory is. Break the cycle with some advice from Nelson Dellis, who recently placed second at the U.S.A. Memory Championship in New York City.

1 Think in pictures. The brain prefers pictures, not abstract images (numbers, names, concepts). Turn whatever it is you are trying to remember into pictures.

2 Store them in a familiar place. Take your home, and mentally walk through it while placing the pictures of what you are trying to memorize along a specific path. Then, when it comes time to recall the information, just mentally walk right back through the place and your pictures will be waiting there for you.

3 Think crazy, bizarre, funny, gory, erotic. Make those pictures over-the-top and out of the ordinary. We remember those better.



The wackier the mental image, the more likely you are to remember it. / GETTY IMAGES, CREATAS RF

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SUPERFOODS FOR SPRING

Supposedly, spring is just around the corner (hurry it up, will you?!) and soon it'll be time to welcome the abundance of fresh fruits and vegetables that are special to the season. Here are five nutrient-packed superstars to help jazz up your menus, lighten your diet and reboot your health — all while giving your taste buds a dose of deliciousness.

For smart slim-down tips and delicious recipes visit Joybauer.com and follow Joy on Facebook and Twitter (@joybauer).

1

Asparagus: One cup provides more than half your daily requirement for vitamin K, which helps in blood clotting and maintaining bone strength. Asparagus is also a good vegetarian source of iron.

2

Arugula: Dark leafy greens like arugula are the closest thing to Mother Nature's multivitamin. Arugula's leaves are enriched with a whole slew of nutrients.

3

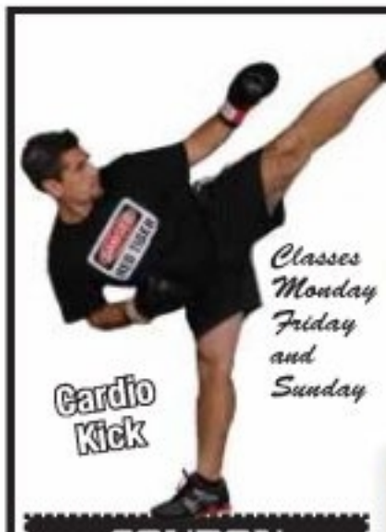
Strawberries: These berries are one of the most potent sources of vitamin C, which helps your body produce collagen, a protein that keeps skin firm and radiant.

4

Fennel: This heart-healthy spring veggie has a unique licorice flavor. It's loaded in potassium, a mineral that helps to get rid of bloat and lowers blood pressure.

5

Leeks: With all of the great cancer-fighting compounds they contain, leeks deserve more playtime in recipes, especially during spring when they're in abundance. As with other members of the onion family, they deliver tremendous flavor for very few calories and virtually no sodium. To cash in on the health perks, saute leeks as the base for a soup, stew or casserole, just as you would onions.



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F/W '13

We should be talking about the spring collections and which warm weather things to buy now. But instead we still have snow this week. So rather than freezing your legs off trying to wear that silk summer dress with opaque tights, take a few cues from the fall/winter shows that wrapped up earlier this month instead.

KENYA HUNT
kenya.hunt@metro.lu

Soft pinks

On the runway: Unique

Topshop mix stitch pink jumper, $72, www.topshop.com

Whistles jacquard trousers, $206, www.whistles.co.uk

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On the runway: Rag & Bone

By Malene Birger trousers, $395, www.netaporter.com

Marni organdy circle skirt $1,280, www.netaporter.com

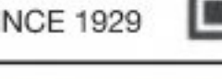
The full skirt

On the runway: Rochas

ASOS midi skirt, $68, www.asos.com

Navy and black

On the runway: Jil Sander



Acne Ava black top, $250, www.acnestudios.com

Jil Sander Navy skirt, $660, www.stylebop.com

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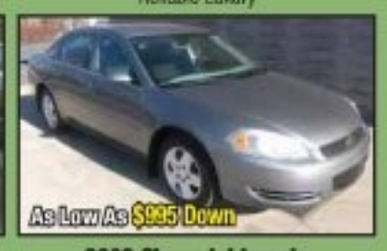

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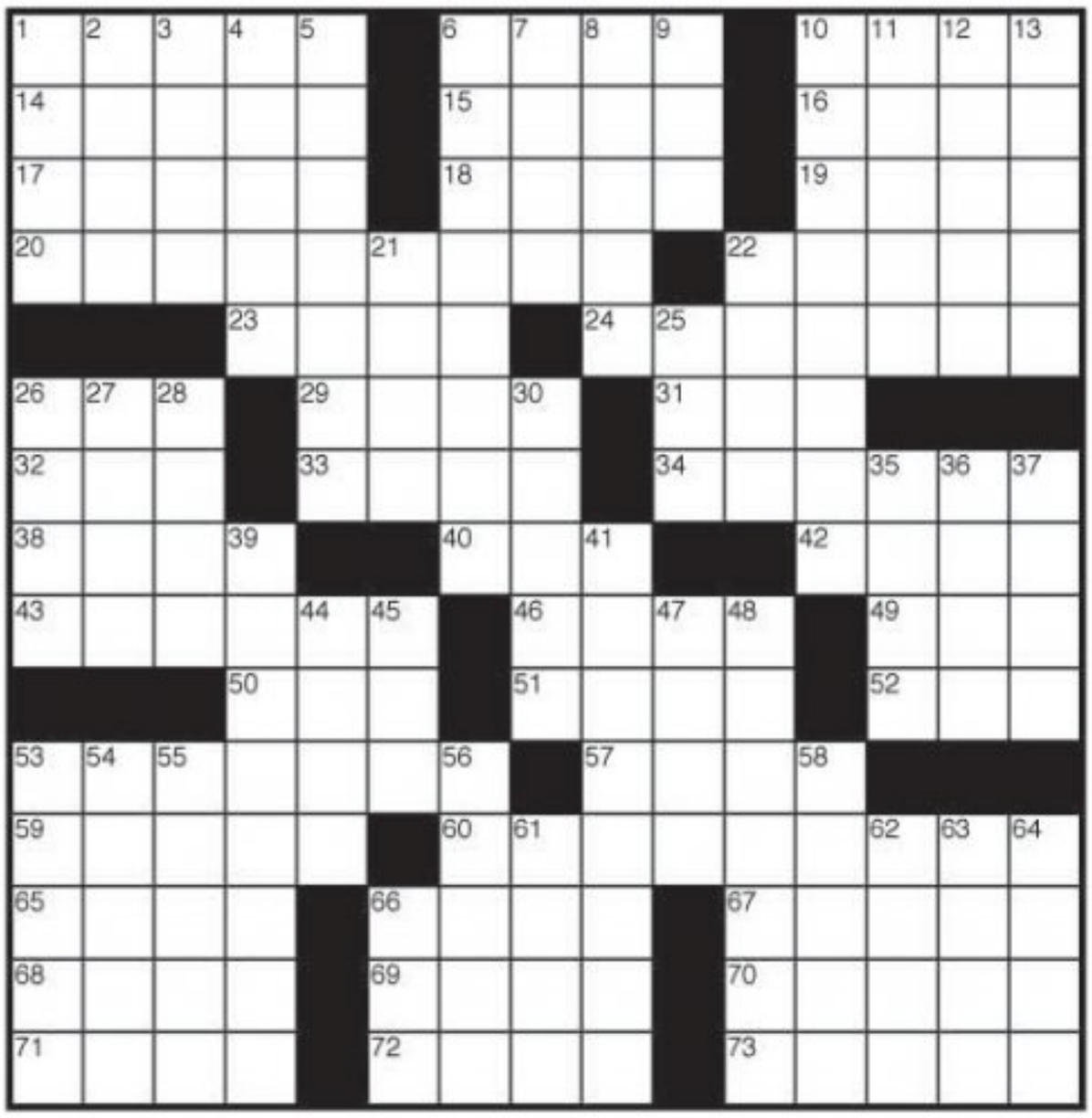

Across
1 Sudden downpour
6 Low-lying clouds
10 Outing
14 Snake venom
15 Water, in Baja
16 Belgian river
17 Insurance worker
18 Wine sediments
19 Earthenware pot
20 Means of escape (hyph.)
22 Built for speed
23 Froth
24 Is parched
26 Litter member
29 Use a screen
31 Way back when
32 Natural resource
33 Sufficient, in verse
34 Full of difficulties
38 Wax-coated cheese
40 Bleacher shout
42 Hacker's pets?
43 Stubborn
46 Director — Ephron
49 Recess game
50 Reed or Ferrigno
51 Mushy food
52 Zig's opposite
53 Xylophone kin
57 Glamorous wraps
59 Buoy up
60 For a song (hyph.)
65 Upscale singer?
66 Kind of dancer (hyph.)
67 Puts an end to
68 Help a crook
69 Chocolate cookie
70 Great Lake natives
71 Stripe
72 Job benefit
73 Went shopping

Down
1. Iffy attempt
2 Comics possum
3 Salchow kin
4 Adds color
5 Bubble over
6 Buys, so to speak (2 wds.)
7 Kind of molding
8 Hotel patron
9 Airline to Stockholm
10 Shop area
11 Gets one's goat
12 Archipelago dot
13 Maxes out
21 Wednesday's god
22 Express relief
25 Checkroom item
26 Haiku or ballad
27 Karachi language
28 Ring, as bells
30 Longbow's sound
35 Cracker brand
36 March Madness org.
37 Burglar of yore
39 Weigh heavily
41 Mark Twain portrayer Hal
— 44 Vague amount
45 Center
47 Tooth anchor
48 Cochise and Geronimo
53 Award for valor
54 Perpetrator's need
55 Baltimore gridder
56 Feel passion for
58 Acute
61 Disney chairman
62 Journalist —
Ducommun
63 Nefertiti's god
64 Furtive whisper
66 DDE's party

Yesterday's answer

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Letters

Hey Metro, leave those kids alone

Very telling: [You published] not a one-day, but two-day assault last week on Michael Jackson's children and their paternity. Either the gossip well has run very dry, or we are witnessing a new age of the bare requirement for being a "columnist." Even young children that have lost a parent aren't safe from Dorothy Robinson's unhealthy obsession?

N. FOSTER, VIA E-MAIL

Take a moment of silence for chivalry

As the Metro is so widely read on the subway, I would like to take this chance to congratulate the "gentlemen" (insert sarcasm here) that I ride with every day. I frequently see able-bodied men push in front of women to get themselves a seat. Just last week I saw a man push past an elderly woman and jump into the seat she was headed to. Bravo! Now, I want to say it isn't all men. I've seen young men (and teenagers!) offer seats to others, but not many of the older men you would think were raised in a different generation and would have such common courtesy. And don't give me the "equal rights" crap as your defense. Rude is rude. Plenty of women stand because they choose to, and I've seen women offer seats to other women. Where are your manners, gentlemen!?

GAIL SCOTT, VIA E-MAIL

Less talk, more fight

Why does the United States act so scared of North Korea? After all those threats and military actions that the North did, all we do is give sanctions. Sanctions only hurt civilians. It's time to give the North a direct threat to their leadership. If the North takes anymore military action toward us or our allies, we should target the leadership without further warning.

MIKE SEFA, VIA E-MAIL

letters@metro.us

Keep them a brief as possible, preferably under 100 words. Metro reserves the right to edit all letters. Please include your name and contact information.

Horoscope

♈ Aries | March 21 - April 20. You shouldn't expect others to act in a reasonable manner when you behave otherwise. Try to handle things with logic, not emotions.

♉ Taurus | April 21 - May 21. The only sure way to achieve success is to roll up your sleeves and do everything yourself. Depending on others to get things done might produce mediocre results.

♊ Gemini | May 22 - June 20. It behooves you to be democratic and bow to the will of the majority. If you're too demanding, you can expect some serious trouble to arise.

♋ Cancer | June 21 - July 22. Trying to bluff your way through a serious assignment isn't likely to work. To be on the safe side, play it straight and get help if you need to.

♌ Leo | July 23 - Aug. 22. Be extremely careful that you don't get hot under the collar should a discussion get intense. There's nothing to gain from losing your cool.

♍ Virgo | Aug. 23 - Sept. 22. What works for someone else won't necessarily do so for you, especially when it comes to your financial affairs. Do what is best suited for your situation.

♎ Libra | Sept. 23 - Oct. 22. Before getting angry, consider the source of unpleasant information being relayed to you. Use collected thinking to soothe your feelings and subdue your response.

♏ Scorpio | Oct. 23 - Nov. 21. Be extra safety-conscious when performing any kind of distasteful task. If you lose your patience and get careless, you'll create needless problems.

♐ Sagittarius | Nov. 22 - Dec. 21. Do what you can to avoid a group that includes an individual whom you dislike. If you're more impatient than usual, a confrontation could erupt.

♑ Capricorn | Dec. 22 - Jan 20. Usually your sense of humor is in good taste, but today could be an exception. Chances are, if you're not careful you could say or act in a manner that others find unsavory.

♒ Aquarius | Jan. 21 - Feb 18. Watch your temper and don't blow things out of proportion. You could create problems for some innocent people.

♓ Pisces | Feb. 19 - March 20. Regardless how rosy a financial presentation appears, it would be best to check things out for yourself before investing in it. It could be all talk and no substance.

Sudoku: Easy

			6				3	
8			3		5			9
		2			4	5		6
	2			6	7		8	
		9				1		
	7		2	4			5	
2		7	9			4		
9			5		6			7
	3				2			

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

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Explorers say hello to Hollywood, want more

NCAA. La Salle gets the day off as they prepare to face No. 9 Wichita State.

No sleep until Los Angeles.

After winning three games in five days, two of them coming down to the final possession, the Explorers finally got a chance to put heads to pillows. La Salle coach John Giannini gave his players a day off Monday as they prepare to take on No. 9 Wichita State on Thursday night in a Sweet 16 matchup.

"I didn't push the guys; we didn't talk about Wichita State. I gave them a day to decompress," said Giannini yesterday on a conference call with the Philadelphia media.

Giannini kept it easy on his guys yesterday, too. The Explorers watched some video on Wichita State in the morning, endured a light practice, then enjoyed a leisurely night at an outdoor mall in Santa Monica, Calif.

According to Giannini, rest is key at this point in the season. But don't confuse rest with complacency. That's not what got La Salle to its deepest NCAA tournament run since 1955.

"We talked about not being happy at this point, and to want more," said Giannini, recalling yesterday's meeting. "We talked about the challenge Wichita State imposed. We're going to be focused and hungry."

La Salle has been caught in a whirlwind tour for the past 36 hours, quickly gathering local and national media attention. If not for Florida Gulf Coast, they'd likely be the country's adopted Cinderella.

"The media attention is a wonderful thing to have to deal with, but it is demanding," Giannini admitted. "It's great for our program, it's great for the university, but it does make game preparation difficult because your schedule is always interrupted. But it's a wonderful problem to have."

La Salle's biggest strength right now?

"Our biggest strength right now is our will to win," said Giannini.

MICHAEL GREGER
michael.greger@metro.us

Tyreek Duren and La Salle finally got a day off after a hectic week. / GETTY IMAGES

Travelin' on

Road warriors steam ahead

The Explorers have been living out of suitcases since the tournament started. With games in Dayton, Ohio, and Kansas City, it didn't make sense to return to Philadelphia.

The team would have had to take an overnight flight Sunday, then a cross-country flight early Tuesday.

Playing small

Size matters ... or does it?

La Salle relies on a small lineup.

Against Wichita St., it could pose a problem. The Shockers boast four guys taller than La Salle's biggest inside threat, Jerrell Wright.

Giannini admitted disadvantage, but pointed out that only one Wichita big, Cleanthony Early, is a scorer.

Will it be so?

Don't doubt will to win

La Salle is 23-0 when tied or leading with five minutes to go. They are 7-1 in games decided by four or fewer points.

MIKE GREGER

3 SPORTS

Reappearing act

Te'o runs well at pro day

2.71 SB

Former Notre Dame linebacker Manti Te'o ran a 4.71-second 40-yard dash at his pro day yesterday. The number was good enough for scouts, who are likely to keep Te'o as a first-round option. Te'o struggled at last month's NFL combine, and rumors of a drop in next month's draft persisted.

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Garland is enjoying a family reunion of sorts at La Salle. / GETTY IMAGES

Garland started from the bottom, now he's back

NCAA. The Virginia Tech transfer is happy to be back in his hometown of Philadelphia with the Explorers.

Tyrone Garland left because of what he termed "distractions."

He came back because of what he termed "family."

The process took a bit of a circuitous route for the talented La Salle guard. It started at Virginia Tech before Garland realized his heart never left Philadelphia.

Garland's "Southwest Philly Floater" in the waning seconds lifted the Explorers last Sunday. It also lifted an entire program that has been through some tumultuous times in the past decade.

"I kind of thought it would have been best if I went to Virginia Tech because of distractions around here," Garland said on Selection Sunday after La Salle learned it was in the field of 68 for the first time since 1992. "It was such a tough decision. I decided to get away from everything. It didn't take long for me to realize I wanted to be back with my family. I made the right choice coming back. Look at how it has worked out."

ANDY JASNER
sports@metro.us

Thanks, coach

When Garland was pondering a transfer, it was John Giannini who told him coming back home would be an ideal fit.

- **"Coach was right," said Garland.** "He said it would be a good situation if I came in and just worked hard. Having the support from home would be beneficial."
- **"It's been great for me.** I've embraced it all, and I couldn't be happier at La Salle. I'm so happy for the program. I'm having fun. We all get along and enjoy playing basketball together."

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MLB. Galvis shows power in Phils' spring win over Tampa Bay

Freddy Galvis was going to make the team for his glove.

Now, after clubbing his third home run this spring yesterday in a 10-1 Phillies' win over the Rays, he might make it for his bat, too. Galvis started in left field and smacked a two-run homer in the fifth inning. It was his 12th extra-base hit for the Phillies in Grapefruit League play.

Raul Valdes, a reliever, got the start and allowed one run in three innings. The Phillies have two games left before they wrap up spring training for the year. They play Detroit today at 1:05 p.m.

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Ruf was sent down to the minors last week. / GETTY IMAGES

Future bright for Ruf after rough spring

MLB. The Phillies slugger was sent to the minors for now.

As the Phillies' disappointing 2012 season petered out, there was little to talk about Darin Ruf. The relatively unknown outfielder turned into a white-hot prospect.

Ruf morphed into a power hitter overnight last summer. Fans, many of whom had enough of Domonic Brown, championed the new kid.

Even though Ruf hit 38 home runs over the course of his minor- and major-league season, plus 10 dingers in Venezuela during winter ball, Charlie Manuel couldn't help but be skeptical.

While playing out the string during the last week of 2012, Manuel gave the impression that another season in the minors would be good.

That's what happened to Ruf, who was sent down to the minors after hitting a paltry .216 in spring training with just one homer and a number of misplayed balls.

"I just want to do whatever I can," Ruf said. "I would love to be able to help this team in Philadelphia this season. But I have to earn my way on to the team."

Domonic Brown is virtually assured of the starting job in right field, with the spring many expected him to have two years ago. Ben Revere will handle center. Left field is wide open, but it appears that Ruf won't be there, at least in April.

"I think that's good for him," an NL scout said. "This is a kid who looks like he can use some time in Triple-A. You don't want to force a kid up who isn't ready."

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Time to take a look at your energy use

Home. A local program offers group discounts for neighborhoods that want to cut down on energy bills.

The Queen Village Neighbors Association is implementing improvements based on its EnergyWorks audit. / R. KENNEDY FOR GPTMC

Sometimes a leak lets air or precipitation into your home, and sometimes it lets cash slip out of your bank account. Several neighborhood groups are using EnergyWorks to seal up residential and financial leaks. The program helps them take advantage of rebates, tax cuts and low-rate financing to boost energy efficiency and diminish wasted wattage.

"It's a bulk-purchase discount," says Ed Bell of the Queen Village Neighbors Association's sustainability committee. Though there are options for individual homeowners, the EnergyWorks Select Partnership program provides a price cut when 50 or more homes in an area sign up. "What normally costs five or six hundred dollars may go down to $150," Bell says.

During the audit, a door blower is used to see where air is leaking. "Then people can decide what they can afford to repair," Bell says, while factoring in how much money will be saved once any problems are fixed.

After the repairs, a third-party organization returns, for free, to check on the improvements.

"Our first audit was last year," says Bell about the Queen Village area. "Now we're at a point where some houses have gone through weatherization. We're getting some real data."

JULIA WEST
letters@metro.us

PLUS

Energy

Want to get your neighborhood involved in a discounted energy audit? Contact Tanya Morris, EnergyWorks outreach coordinator, at tanyam@ecasavesenergy.org. Morris sets up presentations that provide groups with info on the process, cost and potential savings of a Select Partnership audit.

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6 Easter brunch must-haves

Shopping. This year's holiday feast has some competition on the table. Delight your guest with these spring-appropriate picks.

TINA CHADHA
tina.chadha@metro.us

1

They'll finally want to help with serving dessert.

Martha Stewart Collection Geneva Cake Knife and Server, $25, www.macys.com

2

Go beyond Cadbury Eggs this year.

Target Easter egg nonstick cake pan, $14, www.target.com

3

Nothing says "Spring is here!" quite like pastels.

C.Wonder lacquer white-trim tray, $78, www.cwonder.com

4

Colorful bunny mini string lights, $12, www.target.com

It's perfect for Easter — or the baby's room.

5

This guy is not part of the Easter egg hunt.

Faux Pussy Willow Easter Egg Wreath, $63, www.potterybarn.com

6

You worked hard on that lamb. Serve it on something worthy of its beauty.

Anthropologie platter, $98, www.anthropologie.com

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